(b) what was the average price paid by the consumers for a metre of cloth during these years separately;

(c) details of reductions made in the excise duty on cotton textiles during the last five years;

(d) whether these reduction have been passed on to the consumers; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) The estimated per capita consumption of Textiles in 1980 and 1989 was 13.43 mtrs. and 15.07 mtrs. respectively. Data for 1990 is not avalable.

(b) Average price of fabrics was:—

(Rs./Mtrs.)

Year	Cotton	Non-Cotton	Blended/ Mixed
1980	7·78	28·64	29·46
1989	13·81	50·36	37·79

Data for 1990 is not available.

(c) No excise duty concessions were given to Cotton Textiles during the last five years.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Impact of New Economic Policy on handloom weavers' employment

1090. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that nearly 3.5 million handloom weavers will be left totally unemployed with the implementation of new economic policy;

(b) whether it is also a fact that increase in yarn exports has led to sharp rise in the prices of cotton yarn; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Rise in prices of cotton hank yarn can not be co-related to yarn exports since the export of hank yarn of counts upto 60s which are mostly used in the handloom sector is not permitted.

(c) In order to ensure adequate supply of yarn to handloom weavers at reasonable prices, the state sector and cooperative spinning mills had been asked to augment production of hank yarn and exercise restraint in prices. Recently Government has announced a scheme for supply of yarn to handloom weavers at millgate prices through the National Handloom Development Corporation for implementation during 1992-93. Under this scheme, 10.00 million kgs of yarn is likely to be distributed to the weavers during the year.

Retrenchment Compensation Scheme

1091. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:
SHRI SOM PAL:
SHRI SARADA MOHANTY:
SHRIMATI MIRA DAS:
DR. ABRAR AHMED:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to give 45 days retrenchment compensation per every completed year of the service to the sick National Textile Corporation units' workers;

(b) whether Government have considered that sick National Textile Corporation units if sold or amalgamated with other units would give better returns or would be beneficial for the economy; and